

# T-N-R

Trap-Neuter-Return



Does Amarillo have a  
wild and free roaming  
cat population  
problem?

Yes

# What causes a cat overpopulation problem?

- ▣ Animal owners that allow their cats to roam free while being unaltered.
- ▣ Abandoned or lost pet cats are often intact
- ▣ Unaltered animals = animals that breed
- ▣ Animals that breed = overpopulation problem

# Continued

- ▣ Female cats can become pregnant at 4-5 months of age
- ▣ Conservative estimate: One unspayed female = 100 to 400 community cats in 7 years.
- ▣ Nationwide: 80% of owned cats neutered; 3% of community cats neutered.

# DID YOU KNOW?

Each day over 70,000 puppies and kittens are born in the US, and because of overpopulation, more than 3.7 millions animals are still being euthanized each year in shelters across the country. You can help.

## Unspayed/Unneutered Cats & Kittens:

This chart represents one unspayed female, her mate and all of her offspring, producing 2 litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter.



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By spaying and neutering just one male and one female cat, more than 2,000 unwanted births can be prevented in just four years – and more than 2 million in 8 years!

# What is the solution to this problem?

- ▣ The most humane, effective, and fiscally responsible solution is implementing a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program.

# What is T-N-R?

- ▣ T-N-R stands for Trap, Neuter, and Return
- ▣ Trap-Neuter-Return is the process of trapping wild and unadoptable cats that roam freely in the community and perpetually reproduce. Then they are sterilized and ear tipped, microchipped, vaccinated for rabies, and returned to the trapped location.



# What does T-N-R accomplish?

- ▣ The areas that have T-N-R Cats will have their populations stabilized because they will be unable to reproduce.
- ▣ With a stabilized free roaming cat population the cats will naturally diminish over time.



# Will T-N-R impact unwanted behaviors?

- ▣ Yes
- ▣ These cats will no longer have the hormones that drive them to:
  - Spray
  - Yowl
  - Fight
  - Roam vast areas

# Are Community Cats Adoptable?

- ▣ No. These cats are not adoptable because of:
  - Wild and instinctual behaviors
  - Do not have positive associations with humans
- ▣ Some of these cats enter “Barn Cat Programs”
  - These cats are still wild but tend to reside around a farmer’s barn.
  - These cats are still not considered pets.
  - “Barn Cat Programs” do not solve the community cat overpopulation problem.

# Continued

- ▣ Kittens that are born to non-altered Community Cats will be left with their mother till they are weaned.
  - Then removed and domesticated prior to being placed up for adoption.
- ▣ Non-altered Community Cat mothers that are obviously still nursing will be left in place and caught at a later time for altering.

# Is there an alternative to T-N-R?

- ▣ Yes
- ▣ Euthanasia is the alternative to T-N-R.
  - Trapping and euthanizing has been done for decades in Amarillo and has not been successful yet.
  - High cost fiscally and it is emotionally taxing on staff to have to perform euthanasia everyday of cats.
- ▣ Why does trapping and euthanizing not work?
  - “Vacuum Effect”
    - ▣ When one cat is removed another cat replaces it in a never-ending cycle.

# Pioneer in T-N-R?

- ▣ Would Amarillo be the first city in Texas to have Trap-Neuter-Return Programs?
- ▣ No
- ▣ Many cities in Texas have T-N-R programs:
- ▣ Arlington                      San Antonio
- ▣ Austin                          San Angelo
- ▣ College Station              Waco
- ▣ Dallas
- ▣ Houston                      Many More
- ▣ Kerrville

# Can T-N-R potentially save Tax Payer Money?

- ▣ Yes
- ▣ T-N-R is a Fiscally Responsible Approach
  - TNR Efforts will not be funded by tax payers as this is a Grass Roots Effort
  - Just asking for the cooperation from the City
  - \$31.00~ to impound a cat to end up euthanizing it after the stray period expires.
    - ▣ 2015 Numbers – 3917 Cats
      - Approximately 60% euthanasia rate (2344 Euthanized)
        - If 75% of the 60% cats (1758) that were euthanized were eligible for a TNR program – potential cost savings of \$54,498.00
    - ▣ 2016 Numbers – 2111 Cats (January to end of July)
      - Approximately 47% euthanasia rate (1000 Euthanized)
      - If 75% of 47% (1000) that were euthanized were eligible for TNR program – potential cost savings of \$23,250.00

# Who will pay for the T-N-R?

- ▣ Private citizens will fund the surgeries, care, microchips, vaccinations, and conduct trapping efforts.
- ▣ Non-Profits will be formed to facilitate donations.



# Nuisance cats?

- ▣ How will I get help with problematic areas?
  - The private 501(c)3 non-profit groups will aid citizens with problematic areas.
  - Animal Management & Welfare will also be available to assist citizens while working in cooperation with these groups.
- ▣ Will this T-N-R Ordinance allow domestically owned cats to roam?
  - No. Domestic cats must still stay contained to their owner's property.

# What about Public Safety?

- ▣ The cats that are the target of this T-N-R program are already existing in our community.
- ▣ They are currently free roaming and are unvaccinated for rabies and have no known medical histories.
- ▣ After a cat becomes eligible the cat will be vaccinated for rabies and microchipped for identification purposes.
- ▣ These cats will be fixed so there will be no more unvaccinated cats produced.

# Who will monitor compliance of the T-N-R Groups?

- ▣ The Amarillo-Panhandle Humane Society will provide training and a central database for all non-profit groups engaging in T-N-R to report all cats to.



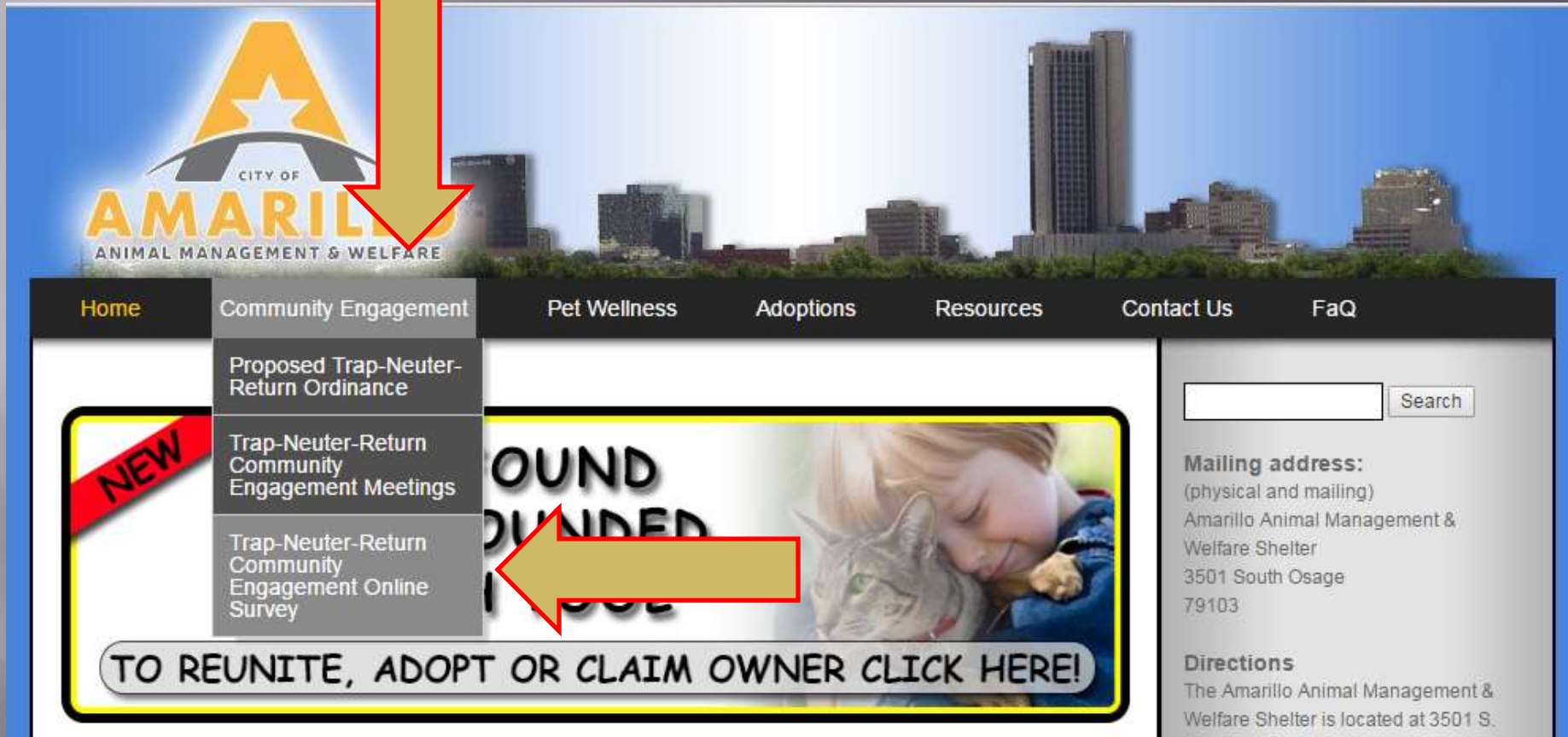
# How can I help?

- ▣ Stay tuned to [amw.amarillo.gov](http://amw.amarillo.gov) for updates and future engagement opportunities
- ▣ Contact the Amarillo-Panhandle Humane Society – 1-806-373-1716
- ▣ Complete the online survey

## Additional Information

- ▣ <https://www.facebook.com/AmarilloTNR>

# Online Survey



The screenshot shows the website for the City of Amarillo Animal Management & Welfare. The header features the city's skyline and the organization's logo, which includes a stylized 'A' with a star. A large yellow arrow with a red outline points from the 'Online Survey' title down to the 'Trap-Neuter-Return Community Engagement Online Survey' link in the 'Community Engagement' menu. A second yellow arrow with a red outline points from the 'FOUND' text in a banner image to the 'TO REUNITE, ADOPT OR CLAIM OWNER CLICK HERE!' button below it.

**CITY OF AMARILLO**  
ANIMAL MANAGEMENT & WELFARE

**Home** Community Engagement Pet Wellness Adoptions Resources Contact Us FaQ

Proposed Trap-Neuter-Return Ordinance

**NEW** Trap-Neuter-Return Community Engagement Meetings

Trap-Neuter-Return Community Engagement Online Survey

**FOUND**

**TO REUNITE, ADOPT OR CLAIM OWNER CLICK HERE!**

**Mailing address:**  
(physical and mailing)  
Amarillo Animal Management & Welfare Shelter  
3501 South Osage  
79103

**Directions**  
The Amarillo Animal Management & Welfare Shelter is located at 3501 S.

[amw.amarillo.gov](http://amw.amarillo.gov)